

EDUCATION ATTAINMENT LEVELS IN THE U.S. ARE DECLINING

34% of job applicants lack the literacy skills needed to do the job they seek.
The American Management Association

Illiteracy costs business and taxpayers \$20 billion annually.
ProLiteracy America

The workforce skills and literacy levels could hamper overall success in economic development. The most critical economic development issue in the nation is the current and projected gap between the employer demand for workforce skills and employee skill sets. + CEDS Strategies and Key Findings

THE SOLUTION

We must ensure that all our citizens, youths and adults, have the literacy skills required for the high-skill jobs of the present and future. + Phyllis Eisen, VP, The Manufacturing Institute & Exec Dir, Center for Workforce Success

document and quantitative literacy carry an additional importance that will have a profound impact on our ability to use cutting edge technology. + Dr. Willard R. Daggett, Pres, International Center for Leadership in Education

education has become a necessity without which a person is defenseless in this complex, industrialized society. + President Lyndon B. Johnson

GASTON LITERACY COUNCIL - PART OF THE SOLUTION

70% of GLC's Adult Basic Education and Pre-GED students advanced a literacy level, far surpassing the North Carolina state goal of 36%

76% of English as Second Language students advanced a literacy level, compared to the State goal of 32%

64% of GLC students in the job market got a job or promotion

STUDENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

I can learn here! I don't feel dumb anymore. I think other things in my life kept me from succeeding. Now I believe I can do it, and I'm going to get my GED! I'm going to be a good role model for my sons. + (Margarita, Pre-GED student)

Janet used the Literacy Council to explain non-physical environment. She said the non-physical environment is the atmosphere, the support you get, the way your classmates treat you, the attitude our staff has. Keith said, "That is exactly the way I described it to my girlfriend. I told her everyone there is pulling for you. You aren't just sitting down with a book and no help. They all try to help you see whatever you are missing. She has an appointment here for next week. +

I do not have to look for a translator and have them open the doors for me to succeed every day. I have a better life. Anonymous ESL Student

Hector said, "This is the only class I have stayed with until the end of the session. I have been in six classes at other places, in Miami, at CPCC. They kept teaching us the same thing over and over that I already knew. When I come to this class, I always learn something new every time. +

"(T)here is no more critical obligation each of us has to the American people than to educate our citizens ... (W)e share the belief that education is the great equalizer. It is the key to success for individual Americans and the key to success of our nation -- not just economic success but civic and democratic success. ... (A) great education must be available to each and every American." Margaret Spellings, eighth U.S. Secretary of Education